

R E M A R K S

1. Reconsideration and further prosecution of the above-identified application are respectfully requested in view of the discussion that follows. Claims 1-25 are pending in this application.

Claims 1-25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,923,745 to Hurd. Claim 4 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Hurd in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,335,268 to Kelly, Jr. et al. After a careful review of the claims (as amended), it has been concluded that the rejections are in error and the rejections are, therefore, traversed.

2. Claims 1-25 have been rejected as being anticipated by Hurd. In response, independent claims 1, 11 and 21 have been further limited to broadcasting or deleting messages based upon a content of the message table. Support for the further limitations may be found at numerous locations throughout the specification (e.g., page 6, lines 3-10).

In contrast, Hurd merely routes calls. As would be abundantly clear to those of skill in the art, the broadcasting or deletion of a message is an entirely different concept than the routing of a call. Nowhere within Hurd is there any teaching or suggestion of a message table that contains indicia of a type of message that determines whether a message is broadcasted or deleted. Since Hurd fails to provide any teaching of the claimed message table used for broadcasting or deleting messages, any rejection based upon Hurd would now be improper and should be withdrawn.

3. Claim 4 has been rejected as being obvious over Hurd in view of Kelly, Jr. et al. However, Kelly, Jr. et al. also fails

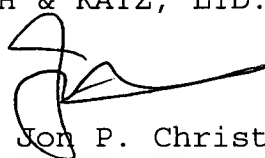
to provide any teaching of the claimed message table used for broadcasting or deleting messages. Since Kelly, Jr. et al. fails to provide any teaching of the claimed message table used for broadcasting or deleting messages, the combination fails to teach each and every claim element. Since the combination fails to teach each and every claim element, any rejection based upon Hurd and Kelly, Jr. et al. would now be improper and should be withdrawn.

4. Allowance of claims 1-25, as now presented, is believed to be in order and such action is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the subject application, he is respectfully requested to telephone applicant's undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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